country due to red tapism, but it has taken a long time in negotiating extremely complex documents/agreements/structures in such cases with a number of agencies and states. The first mega power project in the private sector is being developed on the Memorandum of Understanding route at Hirma, Orissa by M/s Consolidated Electric Povier Asia (India) Ltd. This 3960 MW capacity project envisages supply of power to Rajasthan, Haryana, Punjab, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh. At present the Power Purchase Agreement is under negotiation. In November, 1995. Government of India formulated a mega power project policy, in pursuance of which a mega power project at Nabi-nagar in Bihar was conceived, Power-grid floated enquiry for 'Prequalifi-cation' of project developers for Nabinagar Power Project through International Competitive Bidding. The notice was issued on the 30th of August, 1996, However, apprehensions were expressed by some of the prospective developers about the availability of coal from the linked mine and the commerci;!l viability of the linked mine block. Subsequently, a new mine block has been allocated for the project. It is proposed to recast the project to a capacity that is commensurate with the reserves in the mine block now allocated for the project.

Gas allocation from Tapt'i Gas field

2107. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made a commitment of gas allocation from Tapti Gas Field to Pipavav Project in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the reasons as to why the allocation of Gas has not been made as yet; and

(c) the alternative arrangement Government propose to allocate Gas to Pipavav Povs'er Pr'oject from such other source?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECH NOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MimSTTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGENDRA K. ALAGH): (a) to (.c) It was decided by the Central Government in 1989 to allocate Tapti-Gas to the Pipavav power project in Gujarat. At that time, there was a decision that the gas from Gandhar Gas field will be taken to Hazira and HBJ pipeline. Subsequently, at the request of Government of Gujarat, Gandhar gas was allocated to two power projects at Gandhar. Consequently, it was decided to take Tapti ?as to Hazira and HBJ to meet existing commitments. Government of Gujarat has been advised to base the Pipavav project on alternative fuel.

Re-Piirapjng of Water into Reservoirs

2108. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study of economic feasibility and other benefits has beeni made in the country about re-pumping the water into reservoirs during the low power consumption during lean pe. riod to produce power to meet the peak period requirements;

(b) whether this svstem hag been adopted in any Indian Power Plant, if so, the details of the plant;

(c) the details of performance of S'lch plants;

(d) whether Government are aware that such a system is common is most Hydel Plants in the Western Countries; and